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A sign for The New York Times hangs above the entrance to its building on May 6, 2021 in New York.

Associated Press

Once key, U.S. newspaper editorial endorsements fade away

By DAVID BAUDER
AP Media Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Newspaper endorsements are fading away as prizes to be nabbed by political campaigns, the practice a victim of both the news industry's troubles and the era's bitter politics.

Earlier this month, newspapers controlled by Alden Global Capital said they would no longer endorse candidates for president, governor and the U.S. Senate. The newspapers in the hedge fund's portfolio include dozens of dailies like the Chicago Tribune, New York Daily News, Boston Herald, Orlando Sentinel and San Jose Mercury News.

They're not alone. The days when a prominent endorsement would quickly make its way into a campaign ad or voters would clip out an editorial to take into the voting booth seem destined for history.

"I do think you can make the argument in many cases that they've outlived their

usefulness because of the increased polarization and the skepticism of media in general," said Carol Hunter, executive editor of the Des Moines Register. "I don't think that's a healthy trend. But I think that's reality."

For all the effort that news organizations have made in crafting compelling endorsements, there have always been questions about whether those arguments have much influence, particularly in high-profile races.

At no time was that more evident than 2016, when 57 of the biggest newspapers endorsed Hillary Clinton and two picked Donald Trump, according to the American Presidency Project at the University of California, Santa Barbara. "None of the above," with five, did better than the eventual president.

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Once key, U.S. newspaper editorial endorsements fade away

Continued from Front

At a time when newspapers are scratching for readers, executives wonder whether they should bother.

"Picking a candidate in this environment may alienate more readers than it persuades," the New York Daily News wrote in announcing the new policy, which means the tabloid will sit out the governor's race between Democrat Kathy Hochul and Republican Lee Zeldin.

Of the country's 100 biggest newspapers by circulation, 92 endorsed a presidential candidate in 2008. By 2020, only 54 made a choice, according to UCSB. There's no such reliable accounting in smaller races. But given that there are 2,500 fewer newspapers in the U.S. than there were in 2005, it stands to reason there are a lot fewer endorsements.

That absence "is yet another loss for grassroots democracy," said Penelope Muse Abernathy, a Northwestern University professor who catalogs the decline in local news.

At a time of unpopularity for the press, many people don't like being told what to do, said Poynter Institute media business analyst Rick Edmonds.

For the newspapers, "there's a little bit of 'don't rock the boat' there," Edmonds said. "There are



A woman votes in the presidential primary election at the the Summit View Church of the Nazarene in Kansas City, Mo., on March 10, 2020.

Associated Press

ways to be respectful in a formal editorial. Make a point, but not in a condescending or dismissive way."

In an internal memo earlier this year, leaders of the Gannett newspaper chain noted that editorials were frequently cited as a reason people canceled subscriptions. Surveys said opinion pages were among their least-read content, and tied to problems in credibility and trust.

Some readers have difficulty distinguishing between news and opinion, or flat-out don't believe that a paper's editorial stance doesn't affect its news coverage, said Hunter, whose Iowa newspaper is owned by Gannett.

Gannett didn't ban political endorsements, but strongly advised its more

than 220 newspapers to cut back on national opinion and focus on local issues. The Des Moines Register's opinion pages, for example, now run twice a week. The Register is being selective in its choices this fall, weighing in on the Iowa governor's race and a referendum on guns. But the state's top newspaper won't endorse in federal races, including U.S. Sen. Chuck Grassley's bid for an eighth term.

The McClatchy newspaper chain also didn't ban presidential endorsements. But it said the newspapers would not make a choice in races where its editors could not interview candidates — effectively putting it out of the business of presidential endorsements.

One of its newspapers, the Charlotte Observer, said

it would make endorsements in "competitive and notable" races where it could conduct extensive research and interviews, North Carolina Opinion Editor Peter St. Onge wrote in a column.

Many news organizations simply have fewer people to do the work. Sixty percent of journalists working at newspapers in the United States have lost jobs since 2005, Abernathy said. Staffing is indeed an issue at the Register, Hunter said. The newspaper is unable to cover the state's federal delegation the way it used to, and wants to devote resources to local news, she said.

Many politicians view the dwindling state of endorsements with a collective shrug. News organizations were once seen as objective, but Republican consultant Alex Conant said many voters his candidates are trying to reach consider newspapers as partisan as politicians.

"Editorial boards used to be an important validator," Conant said. "But they're not that important any more."

When he was running Marco Rubio's presidential campaign in 2016, Conant encouraged his client to meet with the editorial board at the Register, the dominant newspaper in the crucial early caucus

state of Iowa.

If Rubio were running for president now, Conant said, he wouldn't bother with it.

Hunter said it hasn't been decided whether the Register would endorse anyone running for president in the 2024 caucuses. A lot will depend on access to the candidates, she said.

In the book "News Hole," University of Virginia professor Jennifer Lawless and George Washington University's Daniel Hayes show how congressional candidates are getting much less news coverage than they used to.

That's also the case for many elections further down the ballot, for local judge or school board, where endorsements had been one of the few places to learn about candidates. In many cases, these races are now nationalized: Voters are left to evaluate candidates as extensions of national parties instead of as neighbors, Abernathy said.

Advertisements — often filled with disinformation — become the primary source of information, she said. By contrast, American Presidency Project co-director John Woolley said, newspaper endorsements "are a good thing in that they model how to think, and clarify to people what the big issues are." □



Former President Donald Trump throws hats to supporters at a rally, Saturday, Oct. 22, 2022, in Robstown, Texas.

By **THOMAS BEAUMONT**
Associated Press
DES MOINES, Iowa (AP)
— Former President Don-

ald Trump is scheduled to return to Iowa ahead of the Nov. 8 midterms, to headline a rally for Repub-

Trump to rally in Iowa ahead of Nov. 8 as he teases 2024

lican Gov. Kim Reynolds and Sen. Chuck Grassley, Trump's organization announced Wednesday.

The event, set for Nov. 3 in Sioux City, the hub of Iowa's conservative northwest, comes as Trump has continued to tease interest in a White House comeback campaign as he has campaigned around the country for Republican candidates. Returning to Iowa, where the 2024 Republican presidential caucuses are scheduled to launch the GOP nominat-

ing sequence, would likely further stoke speculation of Trump's future.

"In order to make our country successful, safe and glorious again, I will probably have to do it again," Trump said in Robstown, Texas, on Oct. 22.

The Iowa event is part of Trump's rally tour in the home stretch of the 2022 campaign.

It is also expected to include stops in Pennsylvania and Ohio.

Republican candidates in Iowa don't appear to

need much of a boost from Trump. Gov. Kim Reynolds, who has swamped her Democratic challenger in fundraising and leads comfortably in polls, is heavily favored to win her second full term.

Though seven-term Republican Sen. Chuck Grassley appears to be facing his most serious challenge for reelection, the 89-year-old still leads in a race where national Democrats have spent no money advertising on behalf of retired Admiral Michael Franken. □

Supreme Court justices spar over court legitimacy comments

By JESSICA GRESKO

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Supreme Court justices tend to wipe the slate clean at the start of a new term, the bruised feelings occasioned by tough cases eased by a summer break. But this year, some justices are engaging in an extended and unusual public disagreement over the court's legitimacy following the decision to overturn *Roe v. Wade*.

The latest comments came Tuesday night from conservative Justice Samuel Alito, the author of the June decision that took away women's constitutional protections for abortion. But the dust-up began months earlier with liberal Justice Elena Kagan, who has made a series of comments about the court's legitimacy. On Friday, she had she was hopeful but reserving judgment on whether a court dominated 6-3 by conservatives can again find "common ground."

On Tuesday, Alito was answering a question at a forum at the conservative Heritage Foundation in Washington when he said that "someone also crosses an important line" when saying "that the court is acting in a way that is ille-



Associate Justice Elena Kagan joins other members of the Supreme Court as they pose for a new group portrait, at the Supreme Court building in Washington, Oct. 7, 2022.

Associated Press

gitimate."

"I don't think anybody in a position of authority should make that claim lightly," he said without citing Kagan by name.

Alito, who was nominated by President George W. Bush, joined the court in 2006. Kagan, picked by President Barack Obama, joined in 2010.

Polls show public trust in the court is at historic lows. A Gallup Poll released in late

September found the level of trust and confidence in the judicial branch was at 47%, the lowest since the organization began surveying the public on the topic in the 1970s. It was 67% in 2020.

"Overall the way the court retains its legitimacy and fosters public confidence is by acting like a court, is by doing the kinds of things that do not seem to people political or partisan, by

not behaving as though we are just people with individual political or policy or social preferences that we're, you know, making everybody live with," Kagan said.

She also said she wasn't talking about any particular decision.

Chief Justice John Roberts made his own public comments about the court's legitimacy in early September, defending the institu-

tion he has led for 17 years. "Simply because people disagree with an opinion is not a basis for questioning the legitimacy of the court," he said.

But Kagan wasn't done, revisiting her legitimacy comments in appearances later the same month at Temple Emanu-El in New York and at Northwestern University. Then, in remarks at Salve Regina University in Rhode Island, she said the court should not be "wandering around just inserting itself into every hot button issue in America" and it especially "shouldn't be doing that in a way that reflects one ideology" or "one set of political views over another."

Alito had also weighed in previously on the issue. In comments to *The Wall Street Journal* in late September he said that "saying or implying that the court is becoming an illegitimate institution or questioning our integrity crosses an important line."

Another explosive matter that called into question how the court functions was the stunning leak of a draft of the court's opinion in *Dobbs v. Jackson*, the abortion ruling, nearly two months before it was officially issued. □

U.S. imposes more Iranian sanctions over Mahsa Amini's death

By FATIMA HUSSEIN

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — The United States on Wednesday imposed new sanctions on members of Iran's intelligence agency, leaders of Iran's Revolutionary Guard, prison wardens and others, acting 40 days since 22-year-old Mahsa Amini died while being held by the morality police.

The U.S. government's sanctions arm designated 10 members of Iran's leadership with financial blocks and penalties, continuing a string of actions imposed against Tehran for its repression of protestors and disrupting internet access. Targeted in the latest sanctions were the commander

of the Guard's intelligence organization, its deputy commander, wardens from a number of prisons and an Iranian company that conducts social media filtering. Separate sanctions from the State Department were levied against individuals and companies that engage in and train people in hacking, and others.

Secretary of State Antony Blinken said the U.S. "will continue to impose costs on individuals and entities in Iran who engage in the brutal repression of the Iranian people."

Iran's morality police arrested Amini on Sept. 13 in Tehran, where she was visiting from her hometown in the country's western Kurdish

region. Police detained her over wearing her hijab too loosely. Iran requires women to wear the headscarf in a way that completely covers their hair when in public. She collapsed at a police station and died three days later.

Amini remains a potent symbol in protests that have posed one of the most serious challenges to the Islamic Republic since the 2009 Green Movement protests drew millions to the streets.

Her death set off protests in dozens of cities across the country of 80 million people, with young women marching in the streets and publicly exposing and cutting off their hair. The gov-

ernment has responded with a fierce crackdown, blaming the protests on foreign interference.

Rights groups say that since the protests, security forces have killed over 200 people, including children. □



Demonstrators rally at the National Mall to protest against the Iranian regime, in Washington, Saturday, Oct. 22, 2022, following the death of Mahsa Amini in the custody of the Islamic republic's notorious "morality police."

Associated Press

3 men convicted of supporting plot to kidnap Gov. Whitmer

By ED WHITE
Associated Press

Three men accused of supporting terrorism in the plot to kidnap Michigan's governor were convicted of all charges Wednesday in a trial that focused on paramilitary drills and fierce contempt for government ahead of the 2020 election. Joe Morrison, his father-in-law Pete Musico, and Paul Bellar were found guilty of supplying "material support" for a terrorist act as members of a group known as the Wolverine Watchmen.

They held gun training in rural Jackson County with a leader of the kidnapping scheme, Adam Fox, who was disgusted with Democratic Gov. Gretchen Whitmer and other officials and said he wanted to snatch her.

The trial in state court was an offshoot of the main case in federal court, which produced mixed results: conspiracy convictions for Fox and three others but also two acquittals.

Jurors in Jackson, Michigan, read and heard violent, anti-government screeds as well as support for the "boogaloo," a civil war that might be triggered by a shocking abduction. Prosecutors said COVID-19 restrictions ordered by Whitmer turned out to be



This combo of undated file images provided by Alvin S. Glenn Detention Center, left, and Jackson County Sheriff's Office, show, from left, Paul Bellar, Joseph Morrison and Pete Musico.

Associated Press

fruit to recruit more people to the Watchmen.

"The facts drip out slowly," state Assistant Attorney General Bill Rollstin told the jury, "and you begin to see wow there were things that happened that people knew about. ... When you see how close Adam Fox got to the governor, you can see how a very bad event was thwarted."

Morrison, 28, Musico, 44, and Bellar, 24, were also convicted of a gun crime and membership in a gang. Prosecutors said the Wolverine Watchmen was a criminal enterprise.

Morrison, who recently tested positive for COVID-19, and Musico were emotional as they watched the verdicts by video away

from the courtroom. Judge Thomas Wilson ordered all three to jail while they await sentencing on Dec. 15.

The verdicts "are further proof that violence and threats have no place in our politics," said Whitmer, who has not participated as a trial witness or spectator in the state or federal cases. "Those who seek to sow discord by pursuing violent plots will be held accountable under the law." Attorney General Dana Nessel, a Democrat in a tight race for reelection, hailed the outcome and praised law enforcement. After hearing nine days of testimony, the jury deliberated Tuesday afternoon and for less than two hours Wednesday.

"Jackson County is not known to have, I guess I would say, liberal juries. They tend to be a conservative bunch," Nessel said. "But I think what they saw here was that this is not a political matter. ... These are individuals that didn't align themselves with any party at all. In fact, they were just anti-government all together."

Defense attorneys argued that Morrison, Musico and Bellar had broken ties with Fox by late summer 2020 when the Whitmer plot came into focus. Unlike Fox and others, they didn't travel to northern Michigan to scout the governor's vacation home or participate in a key weekend training session inside a makeshift

"shoot house" in Luther, Michigan.

"In this country you are allowed to talk the talk, but you only get convicted if you walk the walk," Musico's attorney, Kareem Johnson, said in his closing remarks.

Defense lawyers couldn't argue entrapment. But they attacked the tactics of Dan Chappel, an Army veteran and undercover informant. He took instructions from FBI agents, secretly recorded conversations and produced a deep cache of messages exchanged with the men.

Whitmer, who is seeking reelection on Nov. 8, was never physically harmed. Undercover agents and informants were inside Fox's group for months. The scheme was broken up with 14 arrests in October 2020.

Fox and Barry Croft Jr. were convicted of a kidnapping conspiracy in federal court in August. Daniel Harris and Brandon Caserta were acquitted last spring. Ty Garbin and Kaleb Franks pleaded guilty.

Five of the 14 men are facing charges in state court in Antrim County, the site of Whitmer's second home. A judge there still must determine whether there is sufficient evidence to send them to trial. □

Los Angeles council disrupted by protest amid racism scandal



Police tape put up by protesters blocks the entrance of Los Angeles City Hall, Wednesday, Oct. 19, 2022, in Los Angeles. Associated Press

LOS ANGELES (AP) — The Los Angeles City Council was forced to recess Wednesday to clear chanting protesters from its chamber, as members were poised to formally rebuke two councilmen and the council's former president for their involvement in a racism scandal.

A small but noisy group crowded into the main aisle of an otherwise mostly empty chamber, banged water bottles on a lectern, whooped and shouted in what appeared to be an effort to shut down the meeting. They unrolled a large sign calling the coun-

cil "illegitimate." After multiple warnings to take seats, council leaders called the recess to clear the room. That led to something of a standoff in which about 20 protesters continued shouting, as police officers watched over the group. Council members earlier had left the room. Council President Paul Krekorian warned the protesters they would not deter the council's business. "We will continue to do the work of the people of Los Angeles," he said.

The scandal began earlier this month with the release of a previously unknown re-

CORDING of a 2021 private meeting involving then-City Council President Nury Martinez and Councilmen Kevin de León and Gil Cedillo, as well as powerful labor leader Ron Herrera, head of the Los Angeles County Federation of Labor. They were captured on tape scheming to protect their political clout in the redrawing of council districts in an hour-long meeting laced with bigoted, crude comments. Martinez and Herrera have resigned. Cedillo and de León have resisted calls to step down, including from President Joe Biden. □

Gunmen attack major Shiite holy site in Iran, killing 15

By The Associated Press
DUBAI, United Arab Emirates (AP) — Gunmen attacked a major Shiite holy site in Iran on Wednesday, killing at least 15 people and wounding dozens. The attack came as protesters elsewhere in Iran marked a symbolic 40 days since a woman's death in custody ignited the biggest anti-government movement in over a decade. State TV blamed the attack on "takfiris," a term that refers to Sunni Muslim extremists who have targeted the country's Shiite majority in the past. The attack appeared to be unrelated to the demonstrations.

The official website of the judiciary said two gunmen were arrested and a third is on the run after the attack on the Shah Cheragh mosque, the second holiest site in Iran. The state-run IRNA news agency reported the death toll and state TV said 40 people were wounded.

An Iranian news website considered to be close to the Supreme National Security Council reported that the attackers were foreign nationals, without elaborating.

Such attacks are rare in Iran, but last April, an assailant stabbed two clerics to death at the Imam Reza shrine, the country's most revered Shiite site, in the northeast city of Mashhad. Earlier on Wednesday, thousands of protesters had poured into the streets of a northwestern city to mark the watershed 40 days since the death in custody of 22-year-old Mahsa Amini, whose tragedy sparked the protests.

Deaths are commemorated in Shiite Islam as in many other traditions again 40 days later, typically with an outpouring of grief. In Amini's Kurdish hometown of Saqez, the birthplace of the nationwide unrest now roiling Iran, crowds snaked through the local cemetery and thronged her grave.

"Death to the dictator!" protesters cried, according to video footage that corresponds with known features of the city and Aichi



In this frame grab from video taken by an individual not employed by the Associated Press and obtained by the AP outside Iran shows people block an intersection during a protest to mark 40 days since the death in custody of 22-year-old Mahsa Amini, whose tragedy sparked Iran's biggest antigovernment movement in over a decade, in Tehran, Iran, Wednesday, Oct. 26, 2022. Associated Press

Cemetery. Women ripped off their headscarves, or hijabs, and waved them above their heads. Other videos showed a massive procession making its way along a highway and through a dusty field toward Amini's grave. There were reports of road closures in the area.

State-linked media reported 10,000 protesters in the procession to her grave. Hengaw, a Kurdish human rights group, said security forces fired tear gas to disperse demonstrators. The semiofficial ISNA news agency said security forces fired pellets at crowds of demonstrators on the outskirts of Saqez and pushed back demonstrators who tried to attack the governor's office. It said local internet access was cut off due to "security considerations."

State-run media announced that schools and universities in Iran's northwestern region would close, purportedly to curb "the spread of influenza."

In downtown Tehran, the capital, major sections of the traditional grand bazaar closed in solidarity with the protests.

Crowds clapped and shouted "Freedom! Freedom! Freedom!" through the labyrinthine marketplace.

"This year is a year of blood!" they also chanted. "(Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei) will be toppled!"

Riot police on motorbikes were out in force. A large group of men and women marched through the streets, setting trash cans ablaze and shouting "Death to the dictator!" as cars honked their support. Police unleashed anti-riot bullets at protesters in the streets and sprayed pellets upward at journalists filming from windows and rooftops. Anti-government chants also echoed from the University of Tehran campus.

Amini, detained for allegedly violating the country's strict dress code for women, remains the potent symbol of protests that have posed one of the most serious challenges to the Islamic Republic.

With the slogan #Woman-Life-Freedom, the demonstrations first focused on women's rights and the state-mandated hijab, or headscarf for women. But they quickly evolved into calls to oust the Shiite clerics that have ruled Iran since the 1979 Islamic Revolution.

The protests have also galvanized university students, labor unions, prisoners and ethnic minorities like the

Kurds along Iran's border with Iraq.

Since the protests erupted, security forces have fired live ammunition and tear gas to disperse demonstrations, killing over 200 people, according to rights groups.

Untold numbers have been arrested, with estimates in the thousands. Iranian judicial officials announced this week they would bring over 600 people to trial over their role in the protests, including 315 in Tehran, 201 in the neighboring Alborz province and 105 in the southwestern province of Khuzestan.

Tehran prosecutor Ali Salehi told the state-run IRNA news agency that four protesters were charged with "war against God," which is punishable by death in Iran.

Iranian officials have blamed the protests on foreign interference, without offering evidence.

Last week, Iran imposed sanctions on over a dozen European officials, companies and institutions, including foreign-based Farsi channels that have extensively covered the protests, accusing them of "supporting terrorism." The sanctions involve an entry and visa ban for the staffers in addition to the confiscation of their assets in Iran. □

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Zimbabwe's focus on wheat set to yield biggest-ever harvest

By FARAI MUTSAKA

Associated Press

HARARE, Zimbabwe (AP) —

Zimbabwe says it is on the brink of its biggest wheat harvest in history, thanks in large part to efforts to overcome food supply problems caused by the war in Ukraine. But bush fires and impending rains are threatening crops yet to be harvested.

Like other African countries, Zimbabwe has for decades relied on imports to offset low local production. After Russia's invasion of Ukraine resulted in global shortages and price hikes, the country wanted to ensure "self-sufficiency at all costs," Deputy Agriculture Minister Vangelis Haritatos told The Associated Press this week.

The country expects to harvest 380,000 tons of wheat, "which is 20,000 more than we require as a country," Haritatos said. That is up from about 300,000 tons produced last year.

"We are most likely to get the highest tonnage since 1962, when wheat was first introduced to Zimbabwe. A lot of countries are facing shortages, but the opposite is happening in Zimbabwe," Haritatos said.

While other hunger-stricken African countries are struggling with reduced wheat imports due to the war in Ukraine, Zimbabwe is looking at using its anticipated surplus of the grain to build "a small strategic reserve"



A man covers his face from dust from a combine harvester harvesting wheat grain at a farm in Bindura about 88 kilometres north east of the capital Harare, Monday, Oct. 10, 2022.

Associated Press

for the first time in its history, agriculture minister Anxious Masuka told journalists earlier this month. This would cushion Zimbabwe against future shocks.

Masuka said Zimbabwe plans to bump up wheat production to about 420,000 tons next season, giving the country room to keep building its strategic reserve and become an exporter of the grain. Wheat is Zimbabwe's most important strategic crop after corn.

African countries which imported 44% of their wheat from Russia and Ukraine between 2018 and 2020, according to U.N. figures were hit hard by the global

shortages and price hikes of grains as a result of the war. The African Development Bank has reported a 45% increase in wheat prices on the continent.

African nations were at the center of Western efforts to reopen Ukraine's ports as the United States and allies accused Russia of starving the world by denying exports from Ukraine, a key global grain exporter. African leaders also visited Russia to meet with Putin over the issue.

Zimbabwean President Emmerson Mnangagwa in April described the war in Ukraine as a "wake-up call" for countries to grow their own food.

The answer in Zimbabwe has been to empower local farmers, said Haritatos, the deputy agriculture minister. That included roping in hundreds of small-scale, rural farmers to start growing a crop that was traditionally reserved for large-scale commercial farmers, improving water supply infrastructure and distributing fertilizers to small-scale farmers as well as increasing private-sector participation. The crop was introduced for the first time to areas and farmers who had never grown wheat before. Winter corn production has given way to wheat in many areas, with Zimbabwe banking on corn

reserves to meet demand for the staple food. Land used for growing wheat increased from 66,000 hectares (163,089 acres) in 2021 to 75,000 hectares this year and will grow to 100,000 hectares next season.

"A lot of countries discount small-scale farmers because they are so small that individually they cannot effect much change," Haritatos said. "But we organized them into clusters and convinced them that it was possible. The quality of most of their crops is premium."

He said the war in Ukraine had made Zimbabwe "realize that we shouldn't rely on other countries for food that we can grow on our own."

However, Zimbabwe's wheat is predominantly soft, and there is a need to blend it with imported hard wheat varieties to produce quality flour for bread, according to the Grain Millers Association of Zimbabwe.

But the government has ruled out imports amid the surplus, saying a special permit would be needed.

The wheat harvest runs from October to December. However, both farmers and the government are concerned by the threat of raging bush fires and imminent rains. They say the fires are more devastating than in previous years as climate change contributes to an extended dry season. □

Mexico scraps daylight savings time except along border



Construction workers ride on a beam hanging from a crane at the construction site of a residential high rise building in Mexico City, June 17, 2022.

Associated Press

MEXICO CITY (AP) — Mexico's Senate approved a bill Wednesday to eliminate daylight saving time, putting an end to the practice of changing clocks twice a year.

Some cities and towns along the U.S. border can retain daylight saving time, presumably because they are so linked to U.S. cities. The Senate approved the measure on a 59-25 vote, with 12 abstentions.

Those who opposed the measure said that less daylight in the afternoon could affect opportunities for chil-

dren and adults to get exercise.

The bill already passed the lower house of Congress and now goes President Andrés Manuel López Obrador to be signed into law. The law would go into effect Sunday, when Mexico is scheduled to turn clocks back for the last time.

Previously, Health Secretary Jorge Alcocer had said Mexico should return to "God's clock," or standard time, arguing that setting clocks back or forward damages people's health. The measure would mean

darkness falling an hour earlier on summer afternoons.

Economists argue that, while the energy savings are minimal, going back to standard time might cause trouble for financial markets in Mexico by putting U.S. East Coast markets so far ahead.

And businesses like restaurants that have become accustomed to staying open later may have to close earlier as many crime-wary Mexicans often try to be off the streets after dark. □

Group Against Gas Pipe urges the government and Eagle LNG to install the LNG tank in Barcadera

ORANJESTAD – Recently in the local news, the issue of the switch from heavy fuel oil (HFO) to liquid natural gas (LNG), so that WEB Aruba NV can use it to generate energy for NV Elmar Aruba has been prominent. LNG will be healthier for people and environment, and will reduce the price of water and electricity.

Utilities Aruba N.V., representing the government of Aruba, gave the American company Eagle LNG from Texas the mandate to execute the plan for this proposed switch. This is a secret contract bound by a non-disclosure agreement, negotiated by Eagle LNG. All information in this contract regarding how, when, who, and the risks, etc, in this contract are not available to anyone.

Eagle LNG began with information sessions for interested residents and began visiting homes in the pertinent neighborhoods, with representatives from Eagle LNG talking about the placement of gas pipes in resident's streets or general area.

In the past, Eagle LNG spoke of placing a gas pipe on the surface, from the refinery RdA to WEB Aruba NV on the same route where currently there are three pipes. This plan changed, and now Eagle LNG wants to dig a tunnel to place the gas pipe under the surface. In

some areas, the intention is to dig the road in front of houses to lay the pipe. Eagle LNG says that this process is very safe and does not carry risks for the residents and their homes.

But from information received and investigated online by the residents themselves, it turns out that the placement of gas pipe under the surface carries great risk. The pipe running from the refinery to WEB Aruba NV will be a pipe for transmission of gas, which is under a lot of pressure. The pressure is necessary for WEB to maintain its equipment in continuous functioning.

A group of citizens calling itself Group Against Gas Pipe (Grupo Contra Tubo di Gas), residents in the area of Balashi, Pos Chikito, Savaneta and Cura Cabay, say they came together to demand that Eagle LNG and the government of Aruba recognize and guarantee their right to live in peace, without fear for their safety and without losing the value of their property. For this reason they are urging Eagle LNG and the government to install the LNG tank in Barcadera and limit the risk to their neighborhoods. This is based on investigation by their own experts.

According to Dutch and American norms, a gas transmission pipe is not allowed to go under inhabited

areas. Representatives of Eagle LNG told those they visited that the pipes are similar to the gas lines running in Dutch and American cities. However, this is not correct because this is talking of a distribution pipe. In Aruba, the only place where there will be a gas distribution pipe will be at WEB Aruba NV itself, distributing for the machinery.

The system is comparable to the pipes for kitchen gas (LPG). But for WEB Aruba NV to get this gas (which will later need to pass through the distribution lines) it will require a bigger pipe, which then comes with a higher pressure and a lot more gas (higher mass) from RdA. It is these pipes with a higher mass of gas that will pass by, below and surely close to people's homes, retirement home Huize Maristella, schools and places frequented by many tourists, according to the group of citizens.

Not a lot of details are known, and this is also the reason why Marinierskazerne – the Dutch army base in Aruba – cannot give approval for the pipes to run through its land until it receives specifications from Eagle LNG, something that has not taken place yet.

And now the citizens found out that WEB Aruba NV itself is working on a plan to use LNG. Already experts from WEB Aruba NV took into

consideration to minimize all the risks for the residential neighborhoods by putting the tank for the gas right next to WEB Aruba NV itself, in Barcadera. The Barcadera quay will be expanded so that the LNG ships can dock there and transfer the gas from a pipe to the tank. WEB Aruba NV even gave information sessions (roadshows) in 2018 and 2019, but sadly this plan was cancelled in February 2021.

Not against LNG

The group clarifies that they are not against LNG. They also see the benefits of LNG, but they are extremely concerned for our people, our homes and our neighborhoods in case that the project for the gas pipe continues in the way Eagle LNG intends. They will do everything they can to avoid a gas pipe from running through residential zones.

A leak, a spark and you can have an explosion of 33 meters around the point of explosion or a length of 66 meters. This means an entire neighborhood would be wiped off the map, with enormous consequences for human life and property. Eagle LNG on its own website says that when there is a gas leak, an area of 100 meters needs to be evacuated. How can this be done effectively, if there are so many houses around the pipe?, the group concludes. □





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Farmers Market at the Ostrich Farm

Every first Sunday of the month the Ostrich Farm organized and facilitate the largest farmers market on the island. Everything sold during the farmers market are locally crafted, produced and grown. Locally artisans and farmers gather at the farmers market to showcase proudly their products.

You can find the best artisan bread & pastries, hot sauces, jams, cooking sauces, fresh egg and honey that comes from small beekeepers, vegetarian snacks from locally sourced beans call Dubaru.

Then you have the very talented local artisans that share their unique and one-of-a-kind art such as driftwood paintings, high quality jewelry, baby clothing, knitting products, ceramic mugs/cups and plates, Calabash art, organic soap



and cosmetic and so much more!

The Farmer's market is held under a large, covered area so you can shop comfortably in the shade. The restaurant in the premises serves delicious local lunches and fresh fish when available. Ice cold local beer, smoothies, fresh fruit shakes and not to be missed serves the best shaved ice on the island!

And the Ostrich tours is of course offered as well.

For everybody young and old here is something to do, shop, relax and enjoy a great family outing and most of all come and support the local artisans and farmers every first Sunday of the month from 10:00 to 14:00, Matividiri 57, follow our facebookpage or Instagram @arubaostrichfarm and be notified for each upcoming farmers market. ☐

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Dutch Postcode Lottery Commits €2.5M for Nature Conservation in the Dutch Caribbean



The Dutch Postcode Lottery's (NPL) has just announced to continue supporting the Dutch Caribbean Nature Alliance (DCNA) activities by donating €500k each year for the next five years.

DCNA will use this money for projects to safeguard nature in the Dutch Caribbean by assisting the Protected Area Management Organizations on Aruba, Bonaire, Curaçao, Saba, St. Eustatius and St. Maarten.

From rainforests to coral reefs, the Dutch Caribbeans is home to a wide variety of natural habitats. These diverse ecosystems are a magnet for tourists and at the same time one of the most important sources of income for the Dutch Caribbean. Nature on the islands is unique and important but it is also fragile and threatened. Amongst the most significant threats include poorly

regulated (coastal) development, wastewater and waste management as well as overgrazing and the impact of invasive species and climate change.

" Our unique and bountiful tropical islands, with their high biodiversity and abundance of globally threatened ecosystems and species demands that we stand together to safeguard biodiversity. That's the heart of the DCNA. We are extremely thankful for the support by the Dutch Postcode Lottery and are looking forward continuing to help the Protected Area Management Organizations to safeguard the Dutch Caribbean natural treasures" stated Hellen van der Wal, Chair of DCNA.

About DCNA & NPL

DCNA is a non-profit organization created to protect the natural environment and

to promote sustainable management of natural resources on the six Dutch Caribbean islands. DCNA's mission is to safeguard nature in the Dutch Caribbean by helping and assisting the Protected Area Management Organizations. By creating a united voice, helping to secure sustainable funding, sharing resources, skills and experience and promoting educational outreach and

public awareness, DCNA is able to strengthen the network and support nature conservation initiatives throughout the Dutch Caribbean.

DCNA has more than a decade long history with NPL and their charitable acts or "Goede Doelen". Since 2008, DCNA became a full beneficiary of the NPL and has received an annual subsidy. □

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Scan For Directions

Consumer Price Index, base period June 2019 - September 2022

The Central Bureau of Statistics presents the most important findings for the Consumer Price Index (CPI) for the month of September 2022.

Consumer Price Index for the month of September 2022

The CPI for September 2022 is 106.20, a decrease of 0.2% compared to the index of August 2022 (106.43) and accumulating an increase of 5.6% up to and including September of this year. The percentage change of the CPI over the last twelve (12) months (September 2021 to September 2022) is 7.0, an increase of 4.8 percentage points (ppts) compared to the percentage change for the same period of last year (2.2%).

The period average (last 24 months) percentage change of the CPI for the periods September 2020 to September 2021 and September 2021 to September 2022 is 4.7%, an increase of 5.4 ppts compared to the period average percentage change over the periods September 2019 to September 2020 and September 2020 to September 2021 (-0.7%).

During this month, three (3) of the twelve (12) sectors registered decreases in prices. The decreases that had the greatest influence on the CPI were registered for the "Transport" (-2.8%) and "Household operation" (-3.1%) sectors, which contributed with an effect of -0.40 and -0.28 ppts, respectively. The decrease in the remaining sector had an effect of -0.11 ppts on the CPI of September 2022. Aforementioned decreases were partially offset mainly by increases in the indices for the "Housing" (1.0%) and "Clothing and footwear" (7.1%) sectors, causing an effect of 0.25 and 0.17 ppts, respectively. The increases in the remaining sectors had an effect of 0.16 ppts on the CPI of September 2022.

The decrease in the "Transport" sector was due to a decrease in the category "Operation of personal transport equipment" (-5.2%), which contributed to an effect of -0.47 ppts.

The decrease in the "Household operation" sector was mainly due to a decrease of 15.9% in the category "Furniture, furnishings, carpets and other floor coverings", which contributed to an effect of -0.17 ppts.

The increase in the "Housing" sec-

tor was mainly due to an increase in the category "Maintenance and repair of the dwelling" (4.2%), which contributed to an effect of 0.21 ppts. The increase in the "Clothing and footwear" sector was mainly due to an increase of 8.5% in the category "Clothing", which contributed to an effect of 0.16 ppts.

Consumption basket

The consumption basket of the CPI consists of 408 goods and services. Compared to August 2022, 53.7% of these products had an increase in price, causing an effect of 1.18 ppts, while 29.7% showed a decrease, contributing to an effect of -1.39 ppts and the remaining 16.7% had no change in price. The prices of goods decreased by 0.2% and caused an influence of -0.11 ppts. The prices of services decreased by 0.3% had an influence of -0.10 ppts on the CPI of September 2022.

Core inflation

The CPIC (core inflation) - CPI excluding the effect of energy and food - was 2.7% in September 2022. The energy index - which consists of the products: electricity, water, gasoline and diesel - was 11.9%. The food index showed an increase of 8.0%.

Subsistence level

The subsistence level for a household consisting of two (2) adults and two (2) children (aged 0-14 years) in September 2022 is Afl. 5,309, an increase of Afl. 470 compared to September 2021 (Afl. 4,839). The subsistence level for a single adult household is Afl. 2,528, an increase of Afl. 224 compared to September 2021 (Afl. 2,304).

Change in prices of crude oil, utilities, gasoline and diesel in September 2022

The prices of utilities (electricity and water), gasoline and diesel are for the greater part determined by international crude oil prices. In September 2022 the average price per barrel of crude oil (US\$ 85.37) had a decrease of US\$ 8.37 (-8.9%) compared to August 2022 (US\$ 93.74), its third decline in a row.

In September the average electricity price per household did not change compared to August 2022 and remained at Afl. 294.56, while the average price of water per household increased by 0.6% from Afl. 167.75 to Afl. 168.73 and had an effect of 0.02 ppts on the CPI of September.

In September 2022 the price of gasoline registered a decrease of

Afl. 25.20 cents (-8.6%) and had an effect of -0.49 ppts on the CPI. The price of diesel registered a decrease of Afl. 8.60 cents (-3.1%) and had an effect of -0.01 ppt on the CPI of September 2022.

In September 2022, utilities, gasoline and diesel as a group showed a decrease in price of 2.5% compared to August 2022, and had an influence of -0.48 ppts on the CPI, while the remaining 404 goods and services, as a group, show an increase of 0.3% and had an effect of 0.26 ppts on the CPI.

Change in prices of Food & catering services in September 2022

The "Food & catering services" index showed an increase of 0.5% in September 2022, after an increase of 1.4% in August 2022. The index for "Food at home" showed an increase of 0.6% in September, as nine (9) of the eleven (11) "Food at home" indices increased in September 2022. The "Potatoes and other tubers" index registered the largest increase (4.0%) in September 2022. Furthermore, other significant increases were posted in the indices for "Fruit" (2.9%), "Oils and fats" (2.3%), "Non-alcoholic beverages" (1.3%) and "Bread and cereals" (1.1%). The only decreases were registered in the indices of "Vegetables" (-2.6%) and "Fish and other seafood" (-1.2%).

Over the last twelve (12) months, the "Food & catering services" has increased by 10.3%. The "Food at home" index showed an increase of 12.1%, where all of the "Food at home" indices increased over the last year. The "Oils and fats" index increased by 17.4%, the largest increase among the "Food at home" food groups. Furthermore, other significant increases were posted in the indices for "Meat" (16.0%), "Fruit" (14.4%), "Milk, cheese and eggs" (13.6%), "Fish and other seafood" (13.1%) and "Potatoes and other tubers" (12.3%).

The index for "Food away from home" increased by 0.4% in September 2022 and has increased by 5.9% over the last twelve (12) months. In September 2022, "Food at home" and "Food away from home" as a group showed an increase in price of 0.5% compared to August 2022, and had an influence of 0.08 ppts on the CPI, while the remaining goods and services, as a group, experienced a decrease in price of 0.4%, causing an effect of -0.30 ppts on the CPI.

The subsistence level in September 2022

The subsistence level is the minimum level of income which is perceived necessary to achieve an adequate standard of living in a given country. The subsistence level is usually determined by estimating the cost of all the essential resources that an average adult consumes in one month or year. This is commonly called a basic needs index, and varies according to the price of food, clothing, housing, transport and other items in the "basket".

Equivalent scales are used to adjust the assumed standard of living, of households of different sizes and composition. The scale assigns a weight of 1.0 for the first adult and 0.5 for each additional adult in the household (aged 15+) and a weight of 0.3 for each child (aged 0-14 years). The subsistence level is based on figures of the report "Bestaansminimum 2010" published by the CBS in December 2010 and is monthly updated for inflation using the monthly CPI. The reference unit used in this report is a household consisting of two (2) adults and two (2) children (aged 0-14 years).

In September 2022 the monthly subsistence level for a household consisting of two (2) adults and two (2) children (aged 0-14 years) (Afl. 5,309) showed an increase of Afl. 470 compared to September 2021 (Afl. 4,839) and was mainly caused by increases of Afl. 234 and Afl. 167 in the sectors

"Food and non-alcoholic beverages" and "Housing", respectively.

In September 2022, the monthly subsistence level for a single adult household is Afl. 2,528, which represents an income deficit of Afl. 713, an increase of Afl. 224 compared to the deficit observed one year ago (Afl. 489). This deficit is the highest registered over a period of six (6) years for the month September. □



With great support from the public Crioyo di Oro will be awarded to Maybelline Arends-Croes

ORANJESTAD – On the 16th of October, Fundacion Go Cultura announced that the next cultural bullwark to receive the national award Crioyo di Oro will be Maybelline Arends-Croes.

The Crioyo di Oro award was born in 2021 as a Lifetime Achievement Award to give recognition, value and celebrate artistic excellence and people in our community who have dedicated their entire lives to the cultural development of Aruba. This recognition is awarded during a gala night combined with a great concert as homage to the one receiving the award.

We can remember the homage dedicated to Jossy Brokke last December when Fundacion Go Cultura surprised Jossy with the award, and named Jossy Brokke as Aruba's first recipient of the Crioyo di Oro award. After this great success, Fundacion Go Cultura decided to continue this project, considering how many cultural bullwarks in our island deserve recognition and homage in this way, while they are still alive.

What changed in 2022 is that this year the general public had the opportunity through the digital platform to nominate the person they wanted to receive this national award. The process of nomination began on the 17th of Augustus and was open until the 14th of October. After more than a thousand nominations, which Fundacion Go Cultura considers a fantastic amount and reaction, they noted that an overwhelming amount was nominating Maybelline Arends-Croes as the next person to receive



this award.

Maybelline Arends-Croes is considered one of the most important artists and cultural bullwarks, emblematic and legendary in our entire history as an island and as a country. At 77 years old currently, we can look back on Maybelline's impressive career and trajectory as teacher, composer, musician, producer, singer and active, exemplary and productive Aruban citizen.

The gala homage that Maybelline will receive on the 30th of November includes a musical concert a few hours long carried by an impressive lineup of the brightest stars in the musical world of our island, who at the same time are forever friends and students of Maybelline.

It will become a journey through Maybelline's musical career from its inception to current times. The musical artists and groups that will participate in this evening will present Maybelline's musical hits and celebrate together with Maybelline an exceptional life of music, inspiration and happiness, which surely will be an inspiration and heritage for the future generations.

Fundacion Go Cultura thanks the local community for participating in the nomination process for the next Crioyo di Oro. With this, Fundacion Go Cultura has a better insight on who are the talented and creative persons who are beloved, respected, appreciated, supported and valued by our community. This also gives the foundation encouragement to continue working to recognize the people, who truly contributed to impact, inspire, motivate, entertain, empower and elevate human beings. Their stories deserve to be told and their contribution deserves to be valued and recognized in the best possible way. □



CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

- ACROSS** 44 — peso
 1 Tennis star Nadal, to fans
 5 Complains
 10 Borders
 12 Turn aside
 13 Space sighting

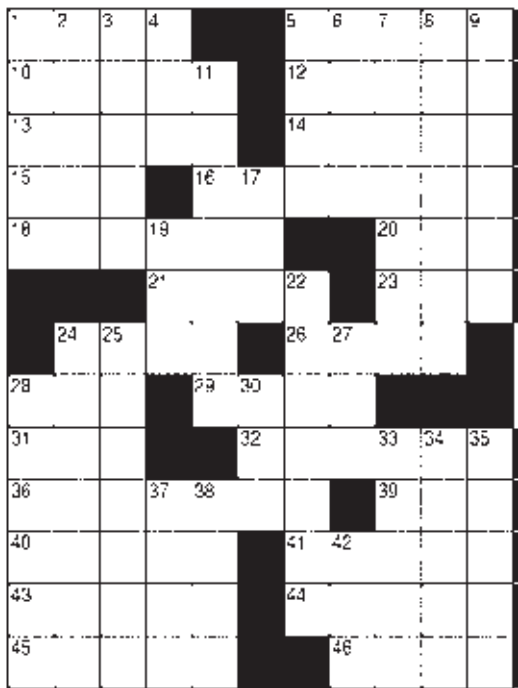
- DOWN**
 1 Indy entrant
 2 Superior to
 3 Was furious
 4 Dined
 5 Joker, e.g.
 6 Declare
 7 Exercise program
 8 Land-scaper's work
 9 Horses
 11 Flows
 17 Cochlea setting
 19 Hotel amenity
 22 Checked the fit of
 24 Sicilian port
 25 More prepared
 27 Plus



Yesterday's answer

- 28 Artist
 Duchamp
 30 Old hand
 33 Got along
 34 Martini garnish
 35 Odorless gas
 37 Meander
 38 Track figures
 42 Deplore

- 14 Scoundrel
 15 Genesis name
 16 Merlot, e.g.
 18 Suez outlet
 20 Central
 21 Component
 23 USN rank
 24 Brit's baby carriage
 26 Chimed
 28 Writer Rita — Brown
 29 Go around
 31 Imitating
 32 Henhouse raider
 36 Sequoia's kin
 39 Pub pint
 40 Sobbed
 41 Hatch on the Hill
 43 Correct, as text



10-27

A XYDLBAAXR
 is LONGFELLOW

One letter stands for another. In this sample, A is used for the three L's, X for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each day the code letters are different.

10-27

CRYPTOQUOTE

Q M T P B W J S W K Q F M R P B Y J C X M D
 P S J G F S P P M L Y Y W . S L S U Y W G F Y
 J A B X B G J L B G F N M R X G S D T M R X B W Y !
 D S K S D Y P Y M G S . K B J W Y N ' J
 F S R W G Y K D S W J B M W

Yesterday's Cryptoquote: DEEP INTO THAT DARKNESS PEERING, LONG I STOOD THERE ... DREAMING DREAMS NO MORTAL EVER DARED TO DREAM BEFORE. — EDGAR ALLAN POE

8 times you're using the wrong credit card

By JAE BRATTON of Nerd-Wallet

There's no such thing as a universal best credit card. The right card for you depends on your lifestyle, your goals and your credit history. For instance, if you're looking for travel rewards but your friend is building credit, the best card for each of you will differ greatly.

And while there may not be one best card for you the average American has about three cards, according to a 2021 Experian study there are many times a card can be wrong for a specific situation.

Here are eight times you could be using the wrong credit card, and what you can do instead.

1. YOU'RE STILL USING YOUR STARTER CREDIT CARD

You may have started out by building your credit with a secured card, student card or alternative card, but once your credit is in better shape, it may be time to upgrade.

If you've used a starter card responsibly by keeping your utilization rate low and paying balances in full every month, you may qualify for a card that's a better fit now. A different card could offer a higher credit limit, better rewards earnings and perks like cellphone protection and travel benefits. Some card issuers may automatically upgrade your card once you've reached certain thresholds, while others may not. Contact the issuer to check your options.

2. YOU'RE NOT USING A CARD ENOUGH TO EARN THE SIGN-UP BONUS

New cardholders can often earn a lucrative wel-



In this Jan. 31, 2018, photo, an assortment of credit cards and rewards cards are shown in Zelenople, Pa.

Associated Press

come bonus but usually with a caveat: You have to spend a minimum amount within a specific time frame to get it. Note the spending requirements for a card's sign-up bonus, and use the new credit card enough by the deadline. If you continue to pay with an older credit card that's already in your wallet, you risk missing out on the bonus if you don't spend enough on your new card. A little planning can help. Think about upcoming big purchases you need to make, such as a car repair or a new laptop. Just one of those could be enough to hit the bonus's spending requirements.

3. YOU'RE USING A STORE-SPECIFIC CARD

It's true a store credit card can save you money, especially if you are a frequent, heavy spender at that store. However, the rewards earned with a store credit card are often only redeemable at that store, limiting their usefulness.

Most shoppers would be better off using a general rewards credit card and earning more flexible rewards. Some cards have elevated rates for online shopping purchases, while others earn as much as 5% back at popular merchants like Target, Walmart and Amazon.

4. YOU DIDN'T REALIZE 5% CARDS TAKE EXTRA WORK

Several cards boast a top 5% cash-back rate in popular spending categories like grocery stores, restaurants and gas. The catch, though, is that you'll have to do some work to earn that rate. In most cases, you'll need to track categories: Qualifying 5% purchases may rotate quarterly, or you may have to choose your own categories. If you're spending outside of those categories with this card, you'll likely earn a paltry 1% instead of the juicy 5% you think you're earning.

Most times, you'll have to activate the bonus categories before the issuer's deadline to earn the 5%, even if you're spending in the right category. Plus, you'll likely run into spending caps in those 5% bonus categories; once you hit those caps, the rewards rate drops to 1%. For those who find a 5% card to be high maintenance, opt for one that earns a flat 2% cash back on every purchase instead.

5. YOU MIX UP THE CARD NAMES

According to a 2020 Nerd-Wallet study, 14% of Americans view credit cards as "complicated," and it's not hard to see why. Some issuers offer suites of cards in the same family and have names that are nearly identical. The logos of some issuers are strikingly similar, too. Perform a quick audit of your credit cards to make sure that they are the cards you intended to get. Cards that look and sound nearly the same may be worlds apart in terms of fees and rewards structure. □

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California carbon emissions fell 9% in pandemic's 1st year

By KATHLEEN RONAYNE Associated Press SACRAMENTO, Calif. (AP) — California's planet-warming emissions dropped nearly 9% in 2020 compared to the year before as pandemic restrictions kept people at home, out of their cars and away from the workplace for much of the year. The data released Wednesday marks California's largest single-year emissions drop and tracks with a similar reduction nationwide. An official cautioned that the data can't be used as a marker for future trends because the pandemic caused unprecedented yet temporary economic changes. "This year will be looked at as an outlier," Steven



Light traffic moves along the Arroyo Seco Parkway toward downtown Los Angeles, March 31, 2020, in Los Angeles. Associated Press

Cliff, executive officer for the California Air Resources Board, told reporters ahead of the data's release. Indeed, data from the Global Carbon Project pointed to a rebound in

global emissions 2021 once pandemic restrictions across the world began to ease. Much of the drop came from fewer people driving in the first months of the pandemic, when schools and office buildings shut down and Democratic Gov. Gavin Newsom ordered people to stay home. □

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Noord	527 3200
Sta. Cruz	527 2900
San Nicolas	584 5000
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Ambulancia	911
Fire Dept.	115
Red Cross	582 2219

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Prof. Taxi	588 0035
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Taxi Serv. Aruba	583 3232
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Avianca	588 0059
Jet Blue	588 2244
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Narcotics Anonymous
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Fundacion Contra Violencia
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Chastain is an everyday superhero in 'Good Nurse'

By **JOCELYN NOVECK**
AP National Writer

Movie titles are always important, but there's special significance to the title of "The Good Nurse," based on the horrific serial killings of dozens and possibly hundreds of patients by a night nurse who injected fatal drugs into IV bags.

Of course, real-life convicted killer Charles Cullen, potentially one of the most prolific serial killers of all time, is not the "good nurse" in the title, even in an ironic sense. It is, rather, fellow nurse Amy Loughren played by a luminous, effortlessly empathetic Jessica Chastain who first befriended Cullen, then suspected him, then helped bring him down.

In bravely securing the evidence police needed, Loughren surely saved countless lives, because the hospitals where Cullen worked, the film argues, lacked the moral courage to act on their suspicions firing Cullen for minor offenses and essentially leaving him to keep killing (he worked at nine hospitals.) In focusing the story on this "good nurse," director Tobias Lindholm and screenwriter Krysty Wilson-Cairns, working from Charles Graeber's book, make a powerful argument for telling such stories not via the killers themselves psychoanalyzing and perhaps aggrandizing them but via those who bravely confronted them. And so Loughren, a



This image released by Netflix shows Jessica Chastain in a scene from "The Good Nurse." Associated Press

single working mom with heart trouble, becomes an everyday superhero.

There's a simple moviemaking lesson here, too, which is that when you have a cast as talented as this, led by Chastain and Eddie Redmayne (going way darker than usual), it becomes less important if the structure seems to veer formulaic. There are, alas, moments where "The Good Nurse" has a too-familiar TV police procedural feel, when you know just what's going to happen next and see the plot machinery moving. But the acting, especially Chastain's never-a-false-moment portrayal, triumphs over all that.

We begin with a brief prologue in 1999, at a Pennsylvania hospital. Suddenly a

patient "codes," and staff rush unsuccessfully to save him. Quietly watching is Cullen, standing against a wall. Redmayne plays Cullen as someone so unremarkable, he can melt into that wall. Seemingly taking to heart a description in Graeber's book of "a sad Mr. Rogers type," he even wears a gray cardigan. Lacking definable personality, he is a true cipher. (Redmayne also becomes yet another top British actor to display an uncanny facility with American accents.) Now we jump to 2003, and a New Jersey hospital. Amy, the night nurse, is exhausted and overworked, but obviously devoted to patients. When an elderly patient's husband balks at leaving his wife alone over-

night, Amy breaks the rules on no guests and brings him a pillow and blanket.

A single mom, Amy works nights so she can be with her kids in the daytime. She can barely pay the babysitter, let alone the private doctor treating her heart condition, which will require surgery. She can't get care in the hospital because they'd fire her if they knew. And she still needs several more months to qualify for health insurance.. (The movie makes a good argument for how undervalued nurses are in this country, not to mention the absurd notion that this nurse who saves lives lacks her own health insurance.) Enter Cullen, who arrives on the night shift with "great recommendations," ac-

ording to Amy's supervisor. Seemingly generous and hard-working, he immediately becomes friends with Amy, meeting and playing with her kids, and vowing to help conceal her condition even sneaking meds from the hospital's automatic dispensing system (he's identified a way to cancel an order but still get the drugs). Meanwhile, Amy's elderly patient dies, inexplicably. Her husband is gutted. And now, police start asking questions.

Two detectives have suspicions right away. These dogged investigators, played by Nnamdi Asomugha and Noah Emmerich (the latter latching onto the culprit far earlier than did his hapless FBI agent in "The Americans") are stonewalled by the hospital, which is run by sleazy corporate types out to save their for-profit institution over protecting lives. Kim Dickens is chilling as a former nurse turned administrator who shills for her hospital.

Chastain's best scenes come toward the end when she is seized with fear, yet determined to stop her friend even when it means confronting him boldly at close range as he begins to unravel. Redmayne has the task of showing us what truly mundane evil looks like. Except for one moment that feels jarring for its suddenness, he craftily displays a veneer starting to crack. □



Announcer Jim Nantz looks on after NFL Super Bowl 53, Feb. 3, 2019, in Atlanta.

Associated Press

Nantz to call last Final Four in '23, Eagle to take over

NEW YORK (AP) — Jim Nantz will step away from calling the NCAA Men's Basketball Tournament after next year and will be succeeded by Ian Eagle.

CBS Sports confirmed the move on Monday night. It was first reported by the New York Post.

Nantz has been a part of the CBS coverage of the tournament since 1986. He was the studio host for five years before calling his first Final Four in 1991.

Next year's Final Four will take place in Houston, 40 years after the University of Houston's run to the national championship game before it was upset by North Carolina State. Nantz attended the University of Houston and hosted coach Guy Lewis' television show. The 63-year old Nantz will remain the lead voice of the network's NFL coverage, along with leading its golf team. CBS has The Masters and PGA Championship.

Eagle has been with CBS since 1998. Besides calling the tournament, he is part of the network's No. 2 NFL team. The 53-year-old Eagle is also part of Turner's NBA coverage and has called Brooklyn Nets games since 1995. □

No Black players expected in World Series, a 1st since 1950

By **BEN WALKER**
AP Baseball Writer

Looking around Memorial Stadium before Game 1 of the 1983 World Series, Philadelphia Phillies star Gary Matthews saw a lot of Black talent.

Joe Morgan. Eddie Murray. Garry Maddox. Ken Singleton. Al Bumbry. Disco Dan Ford. And plenty more that night in Baltimore.

"There were quite a few of us," Matthews recalled.

When fans watch the Houston Astros and Phillies line up this week to begin the Fall Classic, it will be a much different picture.

To be sure, Houston's Jose Altuve and Philadelphia's Jean Segura are among scores of Latin players helping keep big league rosters diverse.

But for the first time since 1950, shortly after Jackie Robinson broke the Major League Baseball color barrier, there project to be no U.S.-born Black players in this World Series.

Zero.

"That is eye opening," said Bob Kendrick, president of the Negro Leagues Baseball Museum in Kansas City, Missouri. "It is somewhat startling that two cities that have high African American populations, there's not a single Black player."

"It lets us know there's obviously a lot of work to be done to create opportunities for Black kids to pursue their dream at the highest level," he said.

Robinson debuted in 1947 with the Brooklyn Dodgers and played in the World Series that year. Since then, the 1950 matchup between the New York Yankees and Phillies has been the only World Series without a Black player.

Houston and Philadelphia will announce their 26-man rosters several hours before Game 1 on Friday night at Minute Maid Park, where Dusty Baker, a Black outfielder for the 1981 champion Los Angeles Dodgers, manages the Astros.

Starting in 1954 when Willie Mays and the New York Giants played against Larry



Philadelphia Phillies celebrate after winning the baseball NL Championship Series in Game 5 against the San Diego Padres on Sunday, Oct. 23, 2022, in Philadelphia. Philadelphia Phillies celebrate after winning the baseball NL Championship Series in Game 5 against the San Diego Padres on Sunday, Oct. 23, 2022, in Philadelphia.

Associated Press

Doby and Cleveland, every single team to reach the World Series had at least one U.S.-born Black player until the 2005 Astros did not.

During that half-century, Black greats such as Hank Aaron, Barry Bonds, Lou Brock, Bob Gibson, Rickey Henderson and Frank Robinson commanded the October stage. In 1979 alone, Willie Stargell and Dave Parker were among 10 Black players on the "We Are Family" Pittsburgh Pirates champions.

For much of that time, baseball was clearly the dominant game in the United States, the national pastime. Over the years, as basketball and football increased in popularity, baseball became more expensive with an emphasis on travel teams and elite showcases.

"Kids started shifting to other sports," Matthews said. One of Matthews' sons, Gary Jr., was an All-Star outfielder.

Another son works in the commissioner's office with diversity programs.

By 2020, when the Dodgers beat Tampa Bay, Los Angeles star Mookie Betts was the only Black player in the World Series.

At the All-Star Game this summer at Dodger Stadium, Betts wore a T-shirt with the message: "We need more Black people at the stadium."

But on the field this weekend, despite encouraging indicators and multi-layered efforts by MLB, it will be a World Series shutout for the first time in over seven decades.

"It's the exclamation point," said Richard Lapchick, director of The Institute for Diversity and Ethics in Sport at Central Florida. "It's been a story that's been ongoing since the late 1980s, the decline of Black baseball players," he said.

Lapchick, lead author for his group's annual reports on diversity hiring practices in sports, said Black players made up 7.2% of opening day rosters this year. That dipped from 7.6% last year and marked the lowest since study data was first collected in 1991, when 18% of MLB players were Black.

The Phillies had no Black players on their opening roster this year for the first time since 1959.

Roman Quinn, a Black backup outfielder, played 23 games before being re-

leased.

Philadelphia power-hitting rookie Darick Hall made his debut in late June and played 41 games his mother is white and his father is Black and white, and he identifies as multiracial. Hall wasn't on the Phillies' roster for any of the first three rounds this postseason and isn't expected to be on the World Series roster.

Houston lost in the World Series last year with Michael Brantley, a Black outfielder, on the roster. Brantley is out for the season this year because of a shoulder injury. Relief pitcher Josh James is also Black and on the team's 40-man roster, but he had arm surgery in early October.

MLB had 38% players of color on opening day rosters, including Altuve, Yordan Alvarez, Jeremy Peña, Yuli Gurriel, Cristian Javier and Framber Valdez of the Astros and Segura, Ranger Suárez and Seranthony Domínguez of the Phillies. Many Afro Latino players embrace Black identity, yet perhaps not for the same reasons that Black U.S. players do.

Race and skin color hold a different currency in places like the Dominican Republic, Panama, Cuba and Be-

lize.

Betts, San Diego's Josh Bell, Cleveland's Triston McKenzie, Atlanta's Michael Harris II and the New York Yankees' Aaron Hicks were among the Black players whose teams were eliminated earlier this month in the playoffs.

Kendrick and others see signs of more on the way.

"I am optimistic. I am," he said.

Last summer, for the first time in MLB draft history, four of the first five players selected were Black.

All four, along with more than 300 big leaguers including Harris, Cincinnati's Hunter Greene, Pittsburgh's Ke'Bryan Hayes and Milwaukee's Devin Williams, took part in MLB diversity-based initiatives such as the MLB Youth Academy, DREAM Series and the Reviving Baseball in Inner Cities (RBI) program.

MLB also has pledged \$150 million in the next decade to the Players Alliance, an organization of current and former players working to increase Black involvement at all levels of the sport.

Chicago White Sox executive vice president Kenny Williams is the only Black leader of baseball operations for a major league team.

"I think surely but slowly, we're going to see a pendulum shift," Kendrick said. "The problem is we're not patient. I don't like instant grits. I'm from Georgia I like mine slow cooked," he said. □

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Broncos' Russell Wilson says he's 'ready to roll' in London



Denver Broncos quarterback Russell Wilson throws the ball during a practice session in Harrow, England, Wednesday, Oct. 26, 2022 ahead the NFL game against Jacksonville Jaguars at the Wembley stadium on Sunday.

Associated Press

By **KEN MAGUIRE**
AP Sports Writer
HARROW, England (AP)

— Broncos quarterback Russell Wilson proclaimed himself "ready to roll" despite a lingering hamstring injury Wednesday ahead of Denver's game against the Jacksonville Jaguars at Wembley Stadium.

Wilson was a limited participant in practice at the Harrow School outside London and coach Nathaniel Hackett was noncommittal, but the veteran quarterback was optimistic.

"I feel great, ready to roll," Wilson said. "I'm super locked in and ready to hopefully get a big win in London."

Wilson, who was held out of Sunday's 16-9 loss to the New York Jets by Hack-

ett because of a strained hamstring, estimated he stayed on his feet for half of the eight-hour flight to Britain.

"I was walking up and down the aisles," Wilson said. "Everybody was knocked out. I was doing high-knees, working on my legs and everything else, making sure I'm ready to rock."

Wilson took part in stretching and throwing drills but didn't roll out and throw during the portion of practice that was open to the media at the private school once attended by Winston Churchill.

"I always want to be out on the field," he said. "That obviously was tough not being out there. I wanted to help us win and get on a hot streak and just get us rolling."

Hackett echoed his comments from earlier in the week, saying Wednesday that Wilson "is trending in the right way."

The rookie coach said Wilson did "quite a bit" in practice. Asked what Wilson needs to show him, Hackett said "that he can protect himself, just want to be sure that as he gets out there, he's able to escape, he's able to move and so forth."

"We want to be smart with him," Hackett said of Wilson's limited practice.

"We don't want any setbacks." Backup Brett Rypien threw for 225 yards and one interception against the Jets his second career start. The third-year player out of Boise State completed 24 of 46 passes with no touchdowns.

The Broncos (2-5) lost their fourth straight despite another outstanding defensive performance, and Hackett has faced more scrutiny than any rookie coach in the league because of his team's offensive woes and his debatable in-game decision-making.

"I always feel pressure on myself, from the standpoint of me personally," Hackett said. "We are who we are and we've got to dig ourselves out of this." □

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